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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Fort Benning’s 17 dining facilities will serve approximately 15,000 traditional Thanksgiving meals this week.

Most Thanksgiving meals will be served on Thanksgiving Day. However, several units will serve the traditional feast Nov. 23, allowing Soldiers to celebrate with their units on Wednesday and with their families on Thanksgiving Day.

Media who would like to cover a traditional Army Thanksgiving are invited to the 11th Engineer Battalion’s noon meal, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the day before Thanksgiving. The 11th Engineer Battalion’s officers and senior noncommissioned officers will wear their dress blue uniforms and man the serving lines.

The 11th Engineer Battalion’s Thanksgiving meal will be preceded by the unit’s annual “Turkey Bowl,” a football game that will pit the unit’s officers against the battalion’s enlisted personnel.

Just what does it take to feed an Army? The Thanksgiving meal grocery list for Fort Benning’s 17 dining facilities includes the following (not a complete list!):

Turkey – 8,932 lbs

Ham - 4,189 lbs

Beef Steamship Round - 3,126 lbs

Beef Prime Rib – 2,890 lbs

Shrimp – 1,560 lbs

Cornish Hens – 1,977

Pies (Pumpkin, sweet potato, cherry, coconut cream, lemon meringue, mincemeat, peach and pecan) – 4,462

Apples – 6,320 lbs

Bananas – 3,200 lbs

Grapes – 2,416 lbs

Oranges – 3,080 lbs

Watermelon – 1,135 lbs

Tangerines – 2,010 lbs

Collard Greens – 440 lbs

Cranberry sauce – 228 gallon cans

Mixed nuts – 1,250 lbs

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